



Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) Fire Update
Deer Park, Texas
May 13, 2019 00:00 – May 19, 2019 23:59

Incident Management Objectives:

Objective 1: Ensure the health and safety of the public and response personnel.

Objective 2: Establish an incident management structure and processes employing the Incident Command System to enable effective overall management of the event with deployment of resources (staff and equipment) in a rapid, focused and well-coordinated manner.

Objective 3: Encourage a collaborative federalism approach, where Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments interact cooperatively and collectively to solve common problems.

Objective 4: Take actions to assess the on-site and off-site impacts during the emergency response phase of this incident. Provide this information to state and local authorities to assist them in their decision to protect the local citizens.

Objective 5: Conduct activities to prevent off-site releases from the ITC Tank Farm.

Objective 6: Respond to, mitigate and recover off-site releases from the ITC Tank Farm.

Objective 7: Maintain open communication with Regional management

Incident Overview:

On March 17, 2019, an above ground storage tank containing Naphtha, caught fire at the Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC), LLC facility in Deer Park Texas. The impacted ITC facility tank farm consists of 15 80,000-barrel capacity above ground storage tanks containing petroleum products including Naphtha, Xylene, Toluene, Gasoline Blendstock, and Base Oil. Eleven of the 15 80,000-barrel capacity above ground storage tanks on site were involved in the fire, resulting in the release of contaminants into the atmosphere, as well discharging the contents of the tanks to the drainage pathway. Firefighting water and foam potentially containing tank products were released from an outfall due to accumulation of water from firefighting efforts. Various firefighting organizations assisted in putting out the fire utilizing a variety of firefighting foams.

A partial breach of the tank farm containment wall on the north side near Tank 80-7 occurred at approximately 12:00 pm on March 22, 2019, to the ditched area and into Tucker Bayou. Additional boom was placed along the ditch leading to Tucker Bayou and Buffalo Bayou (Houston Ship Channel). The Responsible Party's contractor rebuilt the containment wall using clay material.

At approximately 3:40 pm on March 22, 2019, three tanks reignited. The fire spread from the containment area through the breached containment wall into the ditch along Tidal Road. Foam was applied to the tanks and the ditch to extinguish the fire.

As a result of the fire, nine of the fifteen oil tanks had been burned and collapsed. One of the tanks had been burned and damaged, but not completely collapsed. Two tanks had become overheated and smoked but were not significantly damaged. Four of the tanks had smoked but did not burn.

During and after the fire and the breach of the secondary containment, several readings of benzene above 1.0 parts per million (ppm) were detected (highest was 16.5 near National Tank Services) by the various entities conducting air monitoring through the afternoon and night along the ship channel.

EPA created the EPA website response.epa.gov/ITCTankFire on March 17, 2019 and began sharing information with the public. EPA and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) posted the Story Map Resource Interactive tool for the ITC incident. The Story Map provides easy access for EPA and TCEQ incident data.

Executive Overview:

- During the week of May 13, 2019 ITC continued to discharge from their wastewater treatment plant at a flow rate of approximately 60-70 gallons per minute.
- Additional hard boom samples were collected on May 13, 2019 and sent for analysis. The Unified Command is currently waiting to receive the second round of hard boom sampling results and is reviewing the hard boom sampling description, revision 2 – Addendum to the Waste Management Plan.
- On May 11, 2019, UC approved the Tank Deconstruction Plan. Deconstruction of tank 80-15 (pygas) began on May 13, 2019 at 1200, with hydraulic shears.
- On May 14, 2019 at 1140, a flash fire occurred at Tank 80-15 during deconstruction processes. The fire was extinguished quickly. ITC conducted an assessment of the response to the flare up and reconfigured resources to address possible future flare ups.
- On May 14, 2019, ITC collected tank 80-15 scrap metal rinsate samples.
- On May 15, 2019, EPA and TCEQ approved Southwest Shipyards as an approved facility to receive ITC's incident generated waste water.
- On May 17, 2019, EPA approved Cameron Recycling as an approved facility to receive ITC's scrap metal generated during the tank deconstruction process.
- On May 18, 2019, ITC completed the deconstruction of tank 80-15 (pygas) and began transporting scrap metal for recycling. The tank floor remains in place and was cleaned for scrap metal staging prior to transport.
- On May 19, 2019, ITC began deconstruction of tank 80-14 (pygas), and began to stage scrap metal on the former tank floor of tank 80-15.

Land Operations:

- The table will reflect the most recent status during the tank deconstruction process

Tank Status	Tank No.
Complete & Clean – No further action (NFA)	80-1, 80-4, 80-9, 80-11, 80-12, 80-13
Complete – NFA possible until deconstruction begins	80-2, 80-3, 80-5, 80-6, 80-7, 80-8, 80-10
Ongoing Deconstruction Operations	80-14
Complete – NFA following Deconstruction	80-15

Water Operations:

- The table shows the proportion of shoreline in each division that meets end points or requires no further treatment according to SCAT. SCAT team deployed May 17, 2019 to the remaining areas that have yet to meet NFT signoff criteria.
- The 0.48 miles that have met end point in Division A but have not been signed off by UC flank the Enterprise decontamination area and were identified as meeting endpoints while Enterprise was in operation. Out of an abundance of caution, they will be re-inspected as part of the decontamination area sign out process.
- As of May 17, 2019, SCAT has identified all shoreline segments as meeting endpoints except Tucker Bayou (Division B). SCAT has no plans to inspect Tucker Bayou (shoreline segment B14a) until asked to do so by operations or provided additional guidance via the environmental unit lead.

Division	Total Shoreline Length (mi)	Total Length of Shoreline Meeting SCAT End Points or Assigned NFT*	Total Length of Shoreline with UC Sign-off (mi)
A	10.25	10.05	9.57
B	7.82	6.95	6.95
C	27.84	27.84	27.84
D	17.82	16.92	16.92
South & East of D	23.22	23.22	23.22
Total	86.95	86.08	84.5

- As of May 19, 2019:
 - 2,175 feet of boom currently deployed
 - 278,756 bbl of contaminated liquids recovered from tank farm operations
 - 223,882 bbl of oil water mixture recovered from water recovery operations

Total Vessels as of May 19, 2019				
Work Boats	Barges	Small Capacity Skimming Vessels	Skimmers	Total Vessels
9	5	0	0	14

Community Air Monitoring:

- EPA, TCEQ, and ITC continue to conduct air monitoring around the tank farm, in adjoining industrial areas, and communities downwind from the facility.
- EPA conducted handheld air monitoring from May 13, 2019 at 00:00 to May 19, 2019 at 23:59 at 399 locations in the surrounding communities. Results were reported above the detection limit at 24 locations for total volatile organic compounds (VOCs), 2 locations for carbon monoxide (CO) and 5 locations for benzene. EPA will continue to conduct additional air monitoring and deploy the Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) if VOCs continue to be detected.
- EPA conducted air sampling using the Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) on May 13, 2019 to May 19, 2019. The TAGA analyzed the air samples for benzene, toluene and xylene. The TAGA air sampling results were compared to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values (AMCVs)

and found no exceedances of the short-term AMCV for toluene or xylene. The TAGA air sampling results found exceedances of the short-term AMCVs for benzene (0.18 ppm) only on May 16, 2019 adjacent to the ITC facility. This information has been shared with unified command and local officials.

Next week's operations:

- ITC will continue the tank deconstruction process. EPA, TCEQ, and ITC will continue to conduct air monitoring both during the day and at night, around the tank farm, in adjoining industrial areas, and communities downwind from the facility.
- EPA and TCEQ will continue to evaluate plans for possible transition out of emergency response phase to remediation phase.

Coordination with State Agencies:

On March 17, 2019, in response to a tank fire at the ITC Deer Park facility, federal, state and local agencies joined ITC in a Unified Command response. Multiple agencies including the United States Coast Guard, TCEQ, and Harris County Pollution Control Services supported the response effort.

EPA Resources:

Personnel	EPA R6 Dallas	ITC Deer Park	Total
EPA Region 6	3	1	4
EPA Non-Region 6	0	1	1
START	1	4	5
Other Contractors	0	3	3
Total	4	9	13

Additional Information: Air Monitoring locations:

